

REMARKS

Status of the Claims

With the entry of this amendment, claims 52-54, 56-64 are pending, Claims 1-51, being cancelled herein.

Claims 53, 56-57, 62, and 64 are amended herein to clarify the language regarding the O-RS and its conservative variants. These amendments are fully supported by the specification as originally filed, e.g., in original claim 42. The amendments do not introduce new matter. These amendments are made without prejudice and are not to be construed as abandonment of previously claimed subject matter or acquiescence to any objection or rejection of record.

Claim 62 was withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected species. Applicants traverse the withdrawal and respectfully request that claim 62 be examined. Independent claim 53 includes an O-RS that preferentially aminoacylates O-tRNA with *p*-propargyloxyphenylalanine and claim 62 further defines the O-RS as being one of SEQ ID NOs: 54-63 or a conservative variant thereof. Because claim 53, which is broader, has already been examined without limiting the species of *p*-propargyloxyphenylalanine O-RS, then examining new claim 62 is not an undue burden. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the claim be examined.

35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph – The Written Description is Adequate.

The claims were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner alleged that the subject matter of the claims is not described in such a way to convey to one of skill in the art that the inventors were in possession of the invention at the time the application was filed. Specifically, the Examiner alleged that the written description is inadequate with regard to conservative variations of the O-RS. Without acquiescing to the rejection, Applicants herein amend the claims to specify that the conservative variants are 90% identical to a naturally occurring tyrosyl aminoacyl-tRNA synthetase and have at least two specified amino acids. Applicants believe the rejection is moot with respect to the currently pending claims and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claim 63 was included in the 112 rejection regarding conservative variant issues even though it contains no such language. Applicants are therefore unclear as to why claim 63 has not been considered allowable and respectfully request clarification.

CONCLUSION

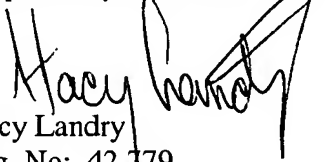
In view of the foregoing, Applicants believes all claims now pending in this application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the claims are deemed not to be in condition for allowance after consideration of this Response, a telephone interview with the Examiner is hereby requested. Please telephone the undersigned at (510) 337-7871 to schedule an interview.

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Respectfully submitted,


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